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• MESSAGE:

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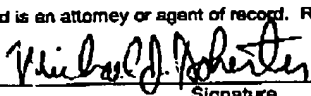
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PTO/SB/26 (09-04)

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<b>TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION OVER A "PRIOR" PATENT</b>	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> <b>SPINE 3.0-446 CONT</b>
In re Application of: <b>James D. Ralph, Stephen Tatar, and Joseph P. Errico</b> Application No.: <b>10/715,969-Conf. #5368</b> Filed: <b>November 18, 2003</b>  For: <b>INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER DEVICE HAVING ARCH SHAPED SPRING ELEMENTS</b>	
<p>The owner*, <u>SpineCore, Inc.</u>, of <u>100</u> percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term of prior patent No. <u>11/037,921</u> as the term of said prior patent is defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173, and as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.</p> <p>In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of the term of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173 of the prior patent, "as the term of said prior patent is presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer," in the event that said prior patent later:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee;</li> <li>is held unenforceable;</li> <li>is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction;</li> <li>is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321;</li> <li>has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate;</li> <li>is reissued; or</li> <li>is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.</li> </ul> <p>Check either box 1 or 2 below, if appropriate.</p> <p>1. <input type="checkbox"/> For submissions on behalf of a business/organization (e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.), the undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the business/organization.</p> <p>I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The undersigned is an attorney or agent of record. Reg. No. <u>40,592</u></p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">         Signature     </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <u>September 21, 2006</u>        Date     </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <u>Michael J. Doherty</u>        Typed or printed name     </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <u>(908) 518-6337</u>        Telephone Number     </div> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) is included.</p> <p><small>*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is required if terminal disclaimer is signed by the assignee (owner). Form PTO/SB/96 may be used for making this certification. See MPEP § 324.</small></p>	
<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <u>571-273-8300 MM</u> </div> <p>I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile nos. (571) 273-5005 and (571) 273-3396, on the date shown below.</p> <p>Dated: September 21, 2006      Signature: <u>Michael J. Doherty</u> (Michael J. Doherty)</p>	